

Name:

Date:

Class:

## *A Raisin in the Sun* -- Written Exam Review

**Directions:** Read through the page below for information on the format of and ways to prepare for your written exam on *A Raisin in the Sun*.

### FORMAT FOR THE EXAM

- There will be two sections to this exam, worth a total of 50 points.
  - The **first** is a **poem analysis**, in which you will be asked to explain two connections between the events in the book and two lines from the poem that opens the play ("Harlem" by Langston Hughes).
  - The **second** is a **quote analysis** section, the preparation for which you will find below. You will be expected to analyze three out of five possible quotes.
- You will be allowed to use your book, but no other notes.
- You will be given one class period to complete the written exam. You will take this exam on Monday, December 18th.

### Quote Analysis Section

The quotes that show up on the exam will be pulled from this bank of quotes. You will be given five of them and will need to analyze three of them.

You will be asked to do the following:

- Identify the speaker (who said each quote)
- Describe the context: This means to explain what was happening in the story when that quote is said. What are they talking about? What's going on at this point in the scene?
- Explain the significance of the quote. The significance of the quote can fit multiple categories. A quote can be significant for **one or more** of the following reasons:
  - It relates to one (or more) of the **major themes** in the play;
  - It demonstrates a **change** in a **character's behavior or perspective** (the way they see the world);
  - It illustrates the **personality of a character** or the **relationship** between two characters;
  - It **foreshadows a future event**, or connects to a past event;
  - It is a **turning point or climax** in the story.

(back)

**Here are the quotes that may appear on the test. You will be given five and you will be asked to analyze three of them.**

“Man say to his woman: I got me a dream. His woman say: Eat your eggs....Man say: I got to take hold of this world, baby! And a woman will say: Eat your eggs and go to work....Man say: I got to change my life, I’m choking to death, baby! And his woman say....Your eggs is getting cold!” (33-34)

“Hadn’t been married but two weeks and wasn’t planning on living here more than a year...We was going to set away, little by little, don’t you know, and buy a place out in Morgan Park. We had even picked out the house...Looks right dumpy today. But Lord, child, you should know all the dreams I had ‘bout buying that house and fixing it up and making me a little garden in the back—*(She waits and stops smiling)* And didn’t none of it happen” (44).

“We don’t want to make no trouble for nobody or fight no causes, and we will try to be good neighbors. And that’s *all* we got to say about that. *(He looks the man absolutely in the eyes)* We don’t want your money” (148).

“It is my business—where is he going to live, on the *roof?*” (58)

“You know what we did last night? Me and Walter Lee?....*(Smiling to herself)* We went to the movies” (111).

“No—I wanted to cure. It used to be so important to me” (133).

“Lena---I’ll work....I’ll work twenty hours a day in all the kitchens in Chicago....I’ll strap my baby on my back if I have to and scrub all the floors in America and wash all the sheets in America if I have to---but we got to MOVE! We got to get OUT OF HERE!!” (140)

“You....you are a disgrace to your father’s memory! Somebody get me my hat!” (75).

“There is *always* something left to love. And if you ain’t learned that, you ain’t learned nothing” (145).

“It is a matter of the people of Clybourne Park believing, rightly or wrongly, as I say, that for the happiness of all concerned that our Negro families are happier when they live in their *own* communities” (118).

“Just tell me, what it is you want to be---and you’ll *be* it....Whatever you want to be---yessir! *(He holds his arms open for TRAVIS)* You just name it, son....*(TRAVIS leaps into them)* and I hand you the world! *(WALTER’S voice has risen in pitch and hysterical promise and on the last line he lifts TRAVIS high)* (109)